Online safety at home:
parents and carers newsletter

Gaming and Livestreaming

It is Internet Safety Day held in year in February. As the year goes on, we will update parents and carers on key issues around online safety. You can find a variety of helpful resources from the Safer Internet Day website https://www.saferinternetday.org/resources.

Online gaming

Online games have become a popular social activity, with most games having features that allow young people to chat with others whilst they play.

For information about the positives of gaming, the risks of 'in-game chat' and measures you can take to help protect your child, watch this short video:
In-game chat: a guide for parents and carers.

Livestreaming

Live streaming is now a very popular feature of many apps and platforms, and all you need to livestream is an internet enabled device like a laptop or a smart phone.

If your child enjoys livestreaming, you may want to read our guide - what is livestreaming to find out more about it and help your child have a positive online experience.

More information?

Thinkuknow is the education programme from the National Crime Agency's Child Protection Command CEOP (NCA-CEOP). Their aim is to protect children and young people from sexual abuse online.

For more information, advice and guidance, visit their parents website and download their home activity worksheets for fun, online safety activities to do with your family.

Steps you can take to help keep your child safer online

Parental controls: These have been designed to help you manage your child's online activities. There are various types, some of which are free, but others which can be bought. However, nothing is totally fool-proof so they shouldn't replace the need for you to support and advise your child using the internet. For more information and step-by-step instructions on setting up parental controls, visit Parental Controls & Privacy Settings Guides - Internet Matters.

Be non-judgemental: Explain that you would never blame your child for anything that might happen online, and you will always give them calm, loving support.

Talk about how their online actions can affect others: If your child is engaging with peers online, remind them to consider how someone else might feel before they post or share something. If they are considering sharing a photo/video of somebody else, they should always ask permission first.